



Dulles Direct Newsletter

March 2013

Welcome to the March edition of the Dulles Direct Newsletter. The bulk of March has been spent finalizing the FY2014 budget. The budget is scheduled to be voted on by the Board on April 3. There are a large number of items of interest to the Dulles District in the budget, so I will be providing a detailed update on the budget in a separate email next week following the final vote.

DULLES DISTRICT UPDATES

Tall Cedars/Route 50 Intersection Improvement

For the past year, Delegate David Ramadan and I have been working to have the planned improvements at Tall Cedars Parkway and Route 50 accelerated. Delegate Ramadan and I are pleased to announce that by the week of April 9, a new alignment is scheduled to be in place.

The new alignment will finally allow two right turn lanes heading eastbound onto Route 50. As you know, currently there are two left turn lanes heading westbound, which never made much sense. However, the existing spacing was not sufficient to allow for two lanes turning right.

We appreciate the work of VDOT and Shirley Construction to accommodate our request on behalf of the many commuters who have to sit at this intersection every day. We know that the Route 50 construction project has been difficult to live with for many months, but hopefully this improvement will make things a little better until the full project is completed.

Pleasant Valley (Loudoun)/Route 50 Update

I regularly receive complaints that vehicles heading eastbound on Route 50 use the center lane on Pleasant Valley road to make a right turn, which is not permitted. The Sheriff's Office is well aware that this is occurring and has been providing extra patrols in this area when possible. Around the same time that the Tall Cedars improvement will be made, a new sign will be placed at this intersection informing people that a right turn is not permitted from the center

lane. Obviously, the sign alone won't prevent people from turning, and I will continue to work with the Sheriff's Office on enforcement.

Brambleton Community Park Lighting

As part of the Board's goal of increasing access and usage of athletic playing fields, the Board is considering a proposal to add lighting to fields at Brambleton Community Park. Earlier this month the Board held a public hearing on the application (SPEX-2012-0036) for lighting nine playing fields at the park. This application has been approved by the Planning Commission and will now come forward to the April 3 Board meeting for final approval. I plan on supporting the proposal.

Staff, the Planning Commission, and the Board have all worked to accomplish the goal of creating more playing time and fields for the use of the community, but also to mitigate impacts on neighboring homes. The application, if approved, requires that field lighting be turned off by 10 p.m., except for the occasional planned tournaments when lights must be turned off by 11 p.m. The lighting being used will also be dark sky compliant and reduce spillover and glare into neighborhoods. In addition, the Planning Commission required the applicant to plant evergreen trees along the east side of the park for buffering and screening.

Byrne's Ridge Park Lighting

In February, the Board approved a special exception to allow all six fields at Byrne's Ridge Park in Stone Ridge to be lit. The approval came after a thorough review and several conditions of approval imposed by the Planning Commission to address concerns from those in the immediate vicinity of the park.

At the time of the Board's approval, the County only had enough funding to allow us to light two of the fields. However, the County has just received additional funding from a developer proffer that will allow additional fields—potentially all of them—to be lit. The funds will also be used to provide safety netting at the park so that balls from the diamonds do not impede on the rectangle fields.

These funds can only be used for parks and recreation purposes in the Dulles South area—they cannot be used for schools, public safety, or other purposes. (The County also receives funds from developers for those things as well). The Board's Finance Committee will be voting to appropriate the funds at the April 9 meeting, with consideration by the full Board of Supervisors expected on April 17. My office is working with Parks, Recreation and Community Services to ensure that the lighting and buffers are installed as detailed in the conditions of approval.

Congratulations to Pinebrook and Liberty Elementary Schools!

Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell and the state Board of Education announced the receipts of the Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) awards for advanced learning and achievement earlier this month. This year, Pinebrook Elementary received the Board of Education Excellence Award and Liberty Elementary received the Distinguished Achievement award. The VIP awards

program recognizes schools and school divisions that exceed minimum state and federal accountability standards. Congratulations to Pinebrook and Liberty staff, teachers, students and parents!

Board Welcomes Briar Woods Champions

I was pleased to welcome members of the State Champion Briar Woods High School football and cheerleading teams to Leesburg to receive a resolution presented by the Board of Supervisors recognizing their achievements. This is the second year in a row both teams have won state championships in their respective sports. The team captains presented us with jerseys and plaques commemorating their championships. Congratulations, Falcons!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dulles Airport Road Access Meeting

VDOT will hold a public information meeting regarding the proposed Corridor of Statewide Significant from Prince William to Dulles Airport. The meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 4, 2013** from 6:30pm-8:30pm at the Mercer Middle School Cafeteria in Stone Ridge. The meeting is planned to be informal, with various displays and VDOT personnel available to answer questions. I would encourage those citizens interested in getting the facts about what is being considered to attend.

Claiborne Parkway Meeting

A second informational meeting on the Claiborne Parkway extension from Ryan Road to Croson Lane will be held on Thursday, April 4, 2013 from 6:30-8:30pm at Rosa Lee Carter Elementary School on Loudoun Reserve Drive in Ashburn. This meeting is being triggered because the project has reached 30 percent design completion. County staff will be available to answer questions and give updates on the design. As a reminder, this road is fully funded and is projected to be completed in mid-2014.

Loudoun County InternMatch Website

Loudoun County's Department of Economic Development has launched the Loudoun InternMatch hub to help local businesses promote their internship opportunities and to help offer real-world experience to the next generation of Loudoun employees. Loudoun InternMatch also has resources available to help your company launch and manage an internship program. To post your company's internships or to find an internship, click [here](#).

10th District Academy Day Set for April 6

Area students interested in attending one of the nation's service academies are encouraged to attend the 10th District Academy Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 6, at the

Loudoun County School Administration Building located at 21000 Education Court, Ashburn, VA. Representatives from the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy will be in attendance. Representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, Virginia Military Institute, and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets have been invited as well.

For more information about the congressional nominating process or Academy Day, contact Ann Potocnak in Congressman Wolf's Herndon office at 703-709-5800 or go to www.wolf.house.gov and click on "Academy Nominations" to complete an online Candidate Registration Form.

Route 50 Night Work Scheduled for April 5-6

On the night of April 5 (weather permitting), beginning at approximately 8:00pm and continuing through the day on April 6, there will be signal work taking place at the intersection of Route 50 and Avion Parkway in Fairfax County. The permanent signal poles and signal heads will be removed, and new temporary signal poles will be installed with new overhead span wire and temporary signal heads.

Lane closures will be up in both the Eastbound and Westbound directions of Route 50 until completion. Also, police officers will be stopping traffic periodically so that the signal subcontractor can remove the permanent poles and install the new temporary signal poles and new span wire. Upon completion of this work, the new intersection will be fully operational and the traffic configuration through the intersection will stay the same. It is advised that delays are anticipated on Saturday, and it is recommended to utilize alternate routes.

For more information on the Route 50 Widening Project, please visit the Project Website [here](#).

Dulles Greenway Toll Rates Public Hearing

The State Corporation Commission (SCC) announced that it will hold public hearings about the toll rates on the Dulles Greenway coming up this spring. The Loudoun hearings will be held April 9 at Loudoun Valley High School in Purcellville at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. and on June 6 at Park View High School in Sterling at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Richmond hearing will be July 18 at 10 a.m. at the commission's courtroom located in the Tyler Building at 1300 E. Main Street.

Delegate David Ramadan initiated the request for the SCC to look into the rates, as the SCC itself states that the rates must be “be reasonable to the user in relation to the benefit obtained; not materially discourage use of the roadway by the public; and provide the operator no more than a reasonable return as determined by the Commission.”

Anyone interested in submitting written comments must do so by July 9 by going to www.scc.virginia.gov/case or by mailing comments to Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Va., 23218-2118. The case number is PUE-2013-00011.

In addition, Delegate Ramadan has started a petition that he will be presenting to the SCC. He is asking all of those who avoid using the Greenway because of higher tolls to sign the petition, available at www.lowergreenwaytolls.com

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